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A MORNING PAPER.

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THE DUMA DISSOLVED.

The dissolution of the Duma, evidencing as it does how little conception the Czar or those who act through or for him have of the real spirit of representative government and popular rights, is said to have produced a profound impression at The Hague peace conference. Well it might. Though not all the representatives at the peace conference are democratic in their political principles, though many of them, no doubt, are aristocratic and autocratic in their leanings, there are probably none outside the Russian representatives, who do not recognize the fatuity and the imbecility of the reactionary party in Russia. There is not one, who does not recognize that tranquillity can come to Russia only through such recognition of the rights of the people as will give opportunity for orderly redress of grievances. If the autocratic power in Russia does not recognize these rights of the people by recognizing the independence of their representatives, that autocratic power will eventually be swept away. There is not one in The Hague conference, whatever his political opinions, excepting the Russian representatives, who does not recognize that the Duma must be free either with the assent of the autocratic power or in spite of it. Dumas may be dissolved, but they will come back less pliant, less considerate of autocratic power than before, or else the people will find some other means of expressing their determination.

It is proof of the depth and extent of the movement for liberty in Russia that though the Czar fixed the basis of representation and the qualification of electors, that though he controlled the machinery of elections and had the coercive power of government and the enjoining power of patronage, the first Duma contained a majority of the representatives of the people as against representatives of the autocratic power. Unable to control that Duma, or to bend it to his will, the Czar dissolved it and called a new election. The second Duma was less pliant, less controllable than the first. It more fully represented the moderate, but determined aspirations for civil liberty, of the Russian people than the first one did. It, too, has now been dissolved because it stood for the people instead of yielding to the reactionary and autocratic influences that surround and move the Czar. Another election has been called for September. There can be seen no reason to expect that the third Duma will be more to the liking of the reactionaries than the first and second have been.

But, even if it should be, what? The probabilities are that it would mean that the determination of the people, if dammed in its natural course, will overflow with the usual destructive effects of such overflow.

There is always the tendency in considering great events to seek for historical parallels. The temptation in the present effort of the people of Russia to secure their civil and political liberty against the absorption of the present regime, is to seek for a historical parallel in the events that led up to the French Revolution. That there is much similarity in the causes and aspirations of the struggle there can be no doubt. But there are radical differences in the conditions of the struggle which make it not at all certain that the parallel will be carried out. Modern arms and modern military organization have made revolt, rebellion, and revolution by arms less simple and easy than it was a hundred years ago. Civil liberty and the forms of representative government have become better defined than they were then. Absolutism and autocratic power, no matter how stubborn and reactionary in spirit, know the limits to which they are likely to be called on to yield better than they did at the time of the French Revolution.

Thus, as it is not so easy for popular rights to be achieved by arms, constant pressure in the direction of free institutions has less well entrenched opposition, though—human nature being the same—not less stubborn opposition.

It does not seem unreasonable to suppose therefore, that the Russian people may yet find their way to civil and political liberty and representative institutions without excesses of the French Revolution or even the overthrow of the throne. If each Duma as it is dissolved is followed by one more resolute, more compact in its organization, and more homogeneous in its political ideas, the constant pressure thus brought to bear might be expected to bring about yielding from even as purblind and reactionary influences as surround the Czar and constitute the autocratic Russian government.

If the determination of the Russian people can be kept steadily to working out their deliverance through the Duma, it will gain moral force and power by its very certainty and directness of aim, and its ultimate hope may yet be attained more quickly than the most sanguine friends now dare hope for.

NO DISARMAMENT.

At the previous conference at The Hague, the United States was careful not to urge any "horizontal reduction" in armaments lest its own inadequate army and navy might be rendered more so. Then, as now, the United States had not soldiers and sailors enough to efficiently guarantee its peace; and while other nations may have had too many, it was not for the United States, in so delicate a situation, to point that fact out. We suppose the American point of view at the present peace conference is the same.

England, being under a Liberal ministry, is naturally eager to have disarmament come about, but in pursuance of her policy of German isolation, she has compelled the Kaiser's empire, not only to oppose the horizontal reduction of armaments, but to increase her own defenses. The more potential enemies that are raised up against Germany the more cannon she must mount and the more ships she must launch; and when Great Britain reached her entente with France, Spain and Portugal and began courting the favor of Italy, it was Germany's business to make ready.

Russia, which has the honor of inaugurating the movement that has its focus at The Hague, supplied the present conference with a chairman who scoffed at universal peace and said nothing about disarmament. The reasons are not far to seek. Russia is less dreaded than she was and is more liable to attack. She is also aware that, if she disbanded a large part of her army, the ranks of the mischievous elements would be swelled accordingly. Finally she has her Chauvinist policy, like France, and wants to be ready to take advantage of the enemy that vanquished her in case that a favorable chance should arise.

The German attitude and the existing treaty with Russia, compel France to keep her army and navy in a state of high efficiency. This aligns four great powers, including the United States, against the disarmament scheme and sufficiently accounts for the attitude of the delegates now sitting in the "Palace of Peace."

But the idea that the conference will prove a failure does not necessarily follow. There is much to engage its best thought in the way of determining the part which floating mines, air ships and neutral trade routes may play in the next war.

Joseph L. Stickney, the newspaperman who was on the bridge of the Olympia with Dewey during the battle of Manila Bay, and who gave to the world Dewey's famous order, "You may fire when ready, Gridley," died recently at his home in Michigan. Stickney's description of the battle made him famous. He saw the battle from the best vantage point. John T. McCutcheon, another newspaperman who went through the battle and described it brilliantly, saw it from the McCulloch, an armed revenue cutter, which had its station in the battle line. For several years previous to his death Stickney had been an editorial writer on the Chicago Evening Post, and contributed frequently to the magazines.

The Board of License Commissioners is "earning golden opinions" for its general policy towards saloons, a policy which rests upon firm restraint in the interests of civic decency. Saloons seem to be a necessary evil but the mischief they do is capable of being greatly modified by law. Under the statutes framed by the late Legislature, the responsible public is able to keep a firm hand upon them, which, in a country like this, is the most that can be expected from liquor legislation.

Schmitz is no longer mayor of San Francisco but he will have the distinction, at San Quentin, of being the only inmate there who has dined at the White House with the President.

General Kuroki can report that he traveled over half the United States and hardly saw a soldier.

The Russian Duma refused to be dissolved on the instalment plan, so Stolypin dissolved it as a whole.

NEW JAPANESE PAPER HAS BROAD POLICY

The first number of the Japanese Hawaii Jiyu Shinbun to be published under the editorship of S. Sheba was issued yesterday. Editorially, in English, the new management explains the raison d'être for the appearance in Honolulu of a new Japanese daily, which is that the Japanese, wishful of becoming Americanized, might have an organ. The Jiyu Shinbun sees the foundation among the Hawaiian Japanese of an ideal community if properly directed and to direct them, by explaining the local laws and the policies of the rulers, by bringing out an understanding of what Americanism means, by cultivating a better feeling between the Japanese and the Americans and by combating the designs of labor agitators, is to be its policy. The paper announces itself clearly as a supporter of Consul Saito, who has been "chosen for his knowledge of affairs and skill in diplomacy to be the guide and protector of his people" and "the best mediator between the laborer and his employer." Editor Sheba summarizes his policy as follows:

"Our object then is to uphold the dignity of the representatives of the home government, to promote harmony amongst the people, to assist in the development of the islands and to make the laws and the spirit of the laws clear, so that observing them the Japanese may be welcome guests of this country and good citizens if they mean to remain here."

FACT THAT MAY SIGNIFY MUCH

(Continued from Page One).

Mr. Shingle, from whom the fact above stated regarding the two cablegrams to Washington was not obtained, stated last night that no cablegrams on the subject had been received here since Saturday.

Mr. Atkinson, who went home early yesterday on account of a slight cold, could not be reached on the wire last night.

A good deal is made by the afternoon papers of the arrival of a cablegram yesterday for District Attorney Breckons, who is absent at Hilo. It was stated that "there was no denial" of the report about town that this cablegram contained notice of the acceptance by the Treasury Department of the withdrawal of the Mahuka site, with advice to Breckons to proceed no further with his investigation of title of that property.

Like as not, though, if a dispatch of the tenor indicated has arrived, it may only mean the formal acknowledgment of the withdrawal in question, dictated some days ago and delayed on the Treasury files and in transmission. There is no feverish rush in selecting the site in Washington and possibly the Treasury clerks are as fond of Saturday afternoon baseball as anybody else.

There have been lots of cablegrams on the subject sent to Washington since that of the Mahuka site withdrawal, and not one of them but had a note of urgency for a reply in them which that one likely did not have. Yet the wires are silent for anything in this direction except for this single, and probably slow routine, dispatch to the United States attorney, the contents of which, moreover, may have been incorrectly reported.

H. E. Cooper, representative of the Irwin site, has received no recent advice from Washington. This fact also has its significance with the rest of the known facts.

In all probability none of the leading sites in the game are as yet either definitely out of it or finally in it.

With gas at \$1.50 a thousand feet no one should burn wood.

Charles M. Schwab has tired of his \$3,500,000 castle, which covers the entire block on Riverside drive, between Seventy-third and Seventy-fourth Streets, in New York, and is willing to sell the structure at a sacrifice. The property has been put in the hands of brokers, and while no definite price has been set, it is understood that it can be purchased for a million less than its cost. Before the house had been completed it began to wear on the owner's nerves, strikes and disputes about building expenses causing annoyance and delay. The land on which the house stands cost the steel magnate \$800,000, the building of steel, marble, and stone cost \$1,000,000, the outlay for the interior work totaled \$1,500,000, and the furnishings cost an additional \$200,000.

"Silent Smith," said a broker, "was a good, kind man, but a busy one, a foe to bores and time-wasters. He used to fish occasionally at Shawnee, and a Shawnee farmer, on a junket to the city, once made bold to visit him in his New York office. 'Wall, Josh, how'd Silent Smith use ye?' they asked the farmer at the general store on his return. 'Fellers,' said the old man, warmly, 'Silent Smith is the perliest cuss I ever see. I hadn't bin settin' chattin' with him more'n a quarter of an hour 'fore he'd told me six times, be gosh! mighty, to come in an' see him ag'in.'"

At luncheon with the President the other day, informally, was Ambassador Bryce and Ben Daniel, an old Western friend, now United States Marshal of Arizona. The President said: "Mr. Ambassador, allow me to present to you my friend, Ben Daniel, of whom I am genuinely proud." Ben is reported to have said, as he thereupon grasped the ambassador's hand, "The President ain't no prouder of me than I am of him."

Massachusetts Minister (visiting Kentucky)—My friend, this is a very bibulous State, I hear. Native—Lord! there hain't twenty-five Bibles in all Kentucky.—Saturday Evening Post.

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